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To: Pharmacies, Physicians, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, Oral Surgeons, Optometrists, Dentists, FQHCs, RHCs, and Nursing Homes

RE: Preferred Drug List (PDL) Update

Effective July 1, 2008, the Alabama Medicaid Agency will update the Preferred Drug List (PDL) to reflect the recent Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) recommendations as well as quarterly updates. The updates are listed below:

PDL Additions	PDL Deletions*
Beconase AQ -Intranasal Corticosteroids	Isordil -Cardiovascular Health-Nitrates/Nitrites
Nasacort AQ -Intranasal Corticosteroids	Nitrostat -Cardiovascular Health-Nitrates/Nitrites
Optivar -EENT Preparations-Antiallergic Agents	Pronestyl SR -Cardiovascular Health-Antiarrhythmics
Symbicort -Respiratory-Inhaled Corticosteroids	
Veramyst -Intranasal Corticosteroids	

** denotes that these brands will no longer be preferred but are still covered by Alabama Medicaid and will require Prior Authorization (PA). Available covered generic equivalents will remain preferred.*

The PA request form and criteria booklet, as well as a link for a PA request form that can be completed and submitted electronically online, can be found on the Agency website at www.medicaid.alabama.gov and should be utilized by the prescribing physician or the dispensing pharmacy when requesting a PA. Hard copy PA requests may be faxed or mailed to:

**Health Information Designs (HID)
Medicaid Pharmacy Administrative Services
P. O. Box 3210
Auburn, AL 36832-3210
Fax: 1-800-748-0116
Phone: 1-800-748-0130**

Incomplete PA requests or those failing to meet Medicaid criteria will be denied. If the prescribing physician believes medical justification should be considered, the physician must document this on the form or submit a written letter of medical justification along with the prior authorization form. Additional information may be requested. Staff physicians will review this information.

Policy questions concerning this provider notice should be directed to the Pharmacy Program at (334) 242-5050. Questions regarding prior authorization procedures should be directed to the HID help desk at 1-800-748-0130.

June 11, 2008